organic solvent, there is a consensus that some water is absolutely needed for the catalytic function of the enzyme.¹⁸ We have investigated abzyme 21H3's water requirements in our octane assay medium (Figure 1B). In order to take full advantage of the immunoglobulin's optimal rates of reaction (using 0.6 mg of antibody), a water concentration of approximately 15% (v/v) was needed. Nevertheless, excellent catalytic activity was still observed as low as 2% (v/v) water addition, and abzyme activity could still be detected in 0.12% (v/v) water. Finally, it is interesting to note the hyperbolic curve obtained in

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An investigation of catalytic antibodies in aqueous-organic biphasic and low water content media was undertaken. Hopefully, the experimental results garnered in this study will be conducive to further exploration of catalytic antibodies in organic solvents.¹⁹

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Synthesis of Carbocyclic Analogues of Guanosine 5'-(β -L-Fucopyranosyl diphosphate) (GDP-Fucose) as Potential Inhibitors of Fucosyltransferases

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Summary: Two carbocyclic analogues of GDP-fucose consisting of 5a-carba- β -L-fucopyranose and its unsaturated counterpart have been synthesized as potential inhibitors of fucosyltransferases through the intramolecular Emmons-Horner-Wadsworth olefination of the 2,6-dioxophosphonate derivative, readily available from L-fucose, followed by chemo- and stereoselective reductions of the α_{β} -unsaturated inosose intermediate, which are the critical steps.

The fucosyltransferases (Fuc-T) are enzymes which catalyze transfer of L-fucopyranose from GDP-fucose (GDP-Fuc) to appropriate glycoconjugates. A number of studies have shown that invasiveness of tumor cells is correlated with an elevation of serum Fuc-T activity¹ or an increased fucose incorporation into cell surface glycoproteins.^{2,3} Since fucose occurs at nonreducing termini in glycoconjugates,⁴ it is conceivable that these phenomena are associated with structural changes in cell surface carbohydrates, in particular, changes involving glycoconjugate fucosylation.⁵ Recently, the Lewis-type $\alpha(1\rightarrow 3/4)$ Fuc-T has gained special interest^{6,7} due to its ability to synthesize







both sialosyl Le^X [SLe^X: Neu5Ac α 2 \rightarrow 3Gal β 1 \rightarrow 4-(Fuc α 1 \rightarrow 3)GlcNAc] and sialosyl Le^a [SLe^a: Neu5Ac α 2 \rightarrow - $3Gal\beta \rightarrow 3(Fuc\alpha \rightarrow 4)GlcNAc]$ determinants. Both determinants have been identified as ligands for endothelial-leukocyte adhesion molecule 1 (ELAM-1)⁸ and for granule membrane protein 140 (GMP-140).⁹ The interaction of SLe^X/SLe^a with ELAM-1 and GMP-140 seems to play an important role in an early stage of leukocyte extravasation and the inflammatory responses.¹⁰ Inhib-

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°Key: (a) DMSO, Ac₂O, rt, overnight; (b) $LiCH_2P(O)(OMe)_2$, THF, N₂, -77 °C, 30 min; (c) NaBH₄, THF, rt, overnight; (d) DMSO, TFAA, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, -77 °C, 1.5 h; (e) NaH, diglyme, N₂, 65 °C, 1 h.

itors of Fuc-T have, therefore, potential medical applications as antimetastatic and antiinflammatory agents. Our approach¹¹ to the construction of such inhibitors is based on the replacement of the glycosyl moiety of sugar nucleotide donors by a more stable carba-sugar (pseudosugar).¹² In this paper, we report enantiospecific and expeditious synthesis of novel carbocyclic analogues of GDP-Fuc, 1 and 2, as potential inhibitors of Fuc- T^{13}



^aKey: (a) (Ph₃PCuH)₆, H₂O, THF, N₂, rt, 48 h; (b) NaBH₄, CeCl₃, MeOH, rt, 5 min; (c) NaBH₄, EtOH, rt, 4 h; (d) 10% Pd/C, H₂ (1 atm), EtOH, rt, overnight.



^eKey: (a) NaBH₄, CeCl₃, MeOH, rt, 5 min; (b) 9-BBN, THF, N₂, 0 °C for 2 h and rt for 1 h; (c) NaBH₄, MeOH/THF, -20 °C, 1 h; (d) Li, liquid NH₃, THF, 2 h.

(Scheme I).

The conversion of L-fucose to its carbocyclic analogues was achieved by a straightforward route involving intramolecular Emmons-Horner-Wadsworth olefination^{14,15} of the 2,6-dioxo phosphonate 7, which proceeded with retention of the stereogenic centers at C-2, C-3, and C-4 in L-fucopyranose (Scheme II). The synthesis of 7 started from the known hemiacetal¹⁶ 3, readily accessible from L-fucose in three steps¹⁷ (61% yield). Albright–Goldman oxidation¹⁸ of 3 to the 1,5-lactone 4,¹⁹ followed by a nucleophilic substitution reaction with the carbanion derived from dimethyl methylphosphonate, afforded the heptulopyranose 5 as a single anomeric isomer.²⁰ Reductive ring

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⁽¹⁹⁾ All new compounds, except the unstable dioxophosphonate 7 were fully characterized on the basis of their ¹H NMR spectra and MS analyses (see supplementary material).



^aKey: (a) (1) (BnO)₂PN(*i*-Pr)₂, 1*H*-tetrazole, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 2 h and (2) *m*-CPBA, $-40 \text{ °C} \rightarrow 0 \text{ °C}$, 45 min; (b) Li, liquid NH₃, THF, 2 h; (c) (1) Dower 50X8-400 (Et₃HN⁺), (2) GMP-morpholidate, pyridine, rt, 5 d, (3) HPLC (RP-18; 24:1 0.05 M aq Et₃HNHCO₃-MeCN, isocratic), and (4) Bio-Rad AG 50W-X2 (Na⁺).

opening of 5 with NaBH $_4$ to the heptitol 6 and subsequent Swern oxidation²¹ vielded the unstable dioxo phosphonate 7. The ensuing intramolecular olefination of 7 occurred smoothly by treatment with NaH in diglyme²² to give the unsaturated inosose 8 ($[\alpha]_D$ -105°, c 1.0, CHCl₃) in 94% yield. The use of K_2CO_3 as base in the presence of 18crown- $6^{14b,c}$ afforded the product in a lower yield ($\approx 60\%$).

The copper(I) hydride hexamer $(Ph_3PCuH)_6^{23}$ allowed the stereoselective conjugate reduction of 8 yielding the desired inosose 9 ($J_{H-5,H-6ax}$, = 13.8 Hz) as the only detectable diastereoisomer in 93% yield (Scheme III). Apparently, the hydride was delivered to the less-hindered side of 8. The NaBH₄-CeCl₃ reduction in MeOH²⁴ furnished an almost quantitative conversion of 9 to the equatorial alcohol 10 $(J_{H-1,H-2} = 9.3 \text{ Hz})$, which was the suitably protected carba- β -L-fucopyranose required for the subsequent phosphorylation. In the absence of $CeCl_3$ the same reduction resulted in a poor stereoselectivity giving a mixture of 10 and its epimeric alcohol 11 ($J_{H-1,H-2} = 2.4$ Hz) in a ratio of 1.3:1. Hydrogenolysis of 11 yielded 5a-carba- α -L-fucopyranose²⁵ (12) (mp 142–143 °C; $[\alpha]_D$ –81°, $c 1.0, H_2O).$

Stereoselective 1,2-reduction of the carbonyl moiety in 8 was successful by treatment with $NaBH_4$ -CeCl₃ in MeOH,²⁴ which afforded exclusively the desired pseudoequatorial alcohol 13 (δ_{H-6} 5.47, $J_{H-1,H-6} = 1.2 \text{ Hz}$)²⁶ in 91% yield (Scheme IV). However, the reduction with NaBH4 alone produced a mixture of diastereoisomers 13 and 14 $(\delta_{\text{H-6}} 5.53, J_{\text{H-1,H-6}} = 4.3 \text{ Hz})^{28}$ together with the saturated



Figure 1. Effect of carbocyclic analogues of GDP-Fuc, 1 and 2, on $\alpha(1\rightarrow 3/4)$ Fuc-T activity.

alcohol 10 in a ratio of 3:1:1.5. The 1,2-reduction was effected also with 9-BBN in THF,27 but with less satisfactory results, producing a 5:1 mixture of 13 and 14. The Birch reduction²⁸ of 14 afforded the unsaturated analogue of carba- α -L-fucopyranose 15 ([α]_D -272°, c 1.0, H₂O).

Phosphorylation of 10 and 13 proceeded smoothly in high yields by phosphitylation using dibenzyl N.N-diisopropylphosphoramidite and 1H-tetrazole, followed by oxidation with m-CPBA²⁹ (Scheme V). Subsequent Birch reduction²⁸ of the resulting perbenzylated phosphates 16 and 18 yielded carba- β -L-fucopyranosyl phosphate (17) $([\alpha]_D - 1.6^\circ, c \ 1.0, H_2O)$ and its unsaturated analogue 19 $([\alpha]_D - 55^\circ, c \ 0.7, H_2O)$, respectively, in excellent yields. The phosphates 17 and 19 were then coupled to GMPmorpholidate according to a standard procedure³⁰ to give our target compounds 1 ($[\alpha]_D$ -14.0°, c 1.0, H₂O) and 2 $([\alpha]_D - 19.9^\circ, c \ 0.7, H_2O)$, respectively.

Preliminary inhibition assay³¹ was carried out against $\alpha(1\rightarrow 3/4)$ Fuc-T solubilized from human colonic adenocarcinoma Colo205 cells using lacto-N-fucopentaose 1 (LNF 1: Fuc α 1 \rightarrow 2Gal β 1 \rightarrow 3GlcNAc β 1 \rightarrow 3Gal β 1 \rightarrow 4Glc) as a substrate³² (Figure 1). Both carbocyclic analogues 1 and 2 exhibit a potent inhibitory activity more strongly than GDP.^{13a} Furthermore, the activity of 2 is comparable to that of GDP-Fuc. The half-chair conformation of the cyclohexene ring in 2 could probably mimic the Fuc-T transition state by adopting, albeit not perfectly, the flattened anomeric conformation of the fucosyl intermediate.

Detailed biological characterization of these novel inhibitors will be the subject of a forthcoming paper.

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⁽²⁰⁾ The ¹H NMR spectrum indicated 5 to exist in a single anomer. Although the anomeric configuration has not been determined yet, one can assume that the nucleophile approached from the less-hindered side of the carbonyl group to form an axially disposed hydroxyl group, i.e., an α -anomer. See also ref 14c.

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⁽³²⁾ This enzyme catalyzes the transfer of L-fucose from GDP-Fuc to the 4-OH of the GlcNAc residue in LNF 1 yielding Le^b-herasaccharide [Fuc α 1 \rightarrow 2Gal β 1 \rightarrow 3(Fuc α 1 \rightarrow 4)GlcNAc β 1 \rightarrow 3Gal β 1 \rightarrow 4Glc]. See also ref 6h

Supplementary Material Available: Experimental procedures, including the methods of enzyme preparation and inhibition assay, and ¹H NMR spectra for all new compounds, except for the unstable dioxophosphonate 7 (24 pages). This material is contained in many libraries on microfiche, immediately follows this article in the microfilm version of the journal, and can be ordered from the ACS; see any current masthead page for ordering information.

Articles

Synthesis of the Hydroxyethylene Isostere of Leu-Val

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The hydroxyethylene isostere of the dipeptide leu-val was synthesized from isovaleryl aldehyde in nine steps in 15% overall yield without the use of chromatographic separations. A key finding is the ability of an amide to selectively direct an epoxidation in an acyclic system and that the selectivity is a function of the amide's size.

The dipeptide hydroxyethylene isostere of leu-val 1 is a representative of an important class of unnatural amino acids related to the natural amino acid statine that when incorporated into peptide substrates of proteolytic enzymes such as Renin impart pronounced inhibitory effects. The inhibitory action is believed to occur by mimicking the transition state for amide hydrolysis. More recently, the same strategy has been used to develop inhibitors of a key protease of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).¹

Earlier, we described a synthesis of 1 utilizing leucine as a starting material and source of chirality.²³ We would now like to describe a new more economical approach that promises to be much more general, does not require a single chromatographic purification, does not pass through sensitive intermediates, and can easily be scaled up for

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commercial development. The strategic concept of the synthesis is outlined in Scheme I. The success of this approach lies in the ability to prepare the acid 4 with a stereogenic center at C-2 and to transfer that chirality to the centers at C-4 and C-5. Although a number of approaches for the preparation of acid 4 are readily envisioned, we chose to use the Ireland enolate Claisen rearrangement⁴ for both economic reasons and its known ability to transfer chirality present in the allylic alcohol precursors.⁵ The required ester 7 (Scheme II) is prepared in 88% distilled yield by the slow addition of 3-methylbutyraldehyde (6) to a slurry of vinylmagnesium bromide

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